

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01     PRETOR 04943 240905Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02  
SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 /094 W  
-----093716 241900Z /14

R 240730Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2256  
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN  
AMCONSUL DURBAN  
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 4943

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, SF  
SUBJECT: MEETING OF AFRIKANER AND SOWETO LEADERS

REFS: A) JOHANNESBURG A-96, B) PRETORIA A-71

1. AT THE INVITATION OF DIE TRANSVALER EDITOR, WILLEM DE KLERK, A GROUP OF AFRIKANER AND SOWETO BLACK LEADERS MET DURING THE WEEK OF AUGUST 14 IN JOHANNESBURG. THE GROUP INCLUDED PROF. GERRIT VILJOEN, RANDS AFRIKAANS UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT AND BROEDERHOND CHIEF; DR. NTHATHO MOTLANA, SOWETO COMMITTEE OF TEN CHAIRMAN; AND DR. SIPHO MYEMBEZI, INKATHA LEADER IN SOWETO. JOINING THESE CENTRAL FIGURES WERE DIE TRANSVALER ASSISTANT EDITORS ANDRIES BOTHA AND P.G. DU PLESSIS; INKATHA LEADER JOHN MAVUSO; RAND DAILY MAIL REPORTER STEVE KGAME; GENERAL MINING PERSONNEL MANAGER NASS STEENKAMP; MOKGOTLA LEADER SIEGRRIED MANTHATA; BANK MANAGER TOM MOLETE AND S. A. BREWERIES REPRESENTATIVE LEON SHIRLEY.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, THE MEETING IS THE FIRST IN A SERIES. ALL ARE TO BE HELD IN PRIVATE BUT THE SUBSTANCE OF THE MEETINGS IS TO BE PUBLISHED SIMULTANEOUSLY IN DIE TRANSVALER AND CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02     PRETOR 04943 240905Z

THE RAND DAILY MAIL. THE FIRST MEETING, REPORTED WITHOUT ATTRIBUTION OF CONTENTS TO SPECIFIC PARTICIPANTS, WAS PUBLISHED ON AUGUST 21 AND IS REPORTED REF A. FUTURE MEETINGS WILL BE REPORTED BY AIRGRAM.

3. BASED ON THE REPORTS OF THE FIRST TWO MEETINGS AND TALKS WITH ONE PARTICIPANT, DR. MOTLANA, IT APPEARS THE SUBSTANCE

REVOLVES AROUND THE ROLE OF THE URBAN BLACK, TOWNSHIP AUTONOMY AND THE FUTURE OF SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT POLICY. THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT THE SERIES OF MEETINGS HAS SAG APPROVAL, ALTHOUGH THE HIGH LEVEL OF THE AFRIKANER PARTICIPANTS WOULD INDICATE THAT THE SAG WAS AT LEAST AWARE IN ADVANCE.

4. REACTIONS TO THE MEETINGS HAVE BEEN MIXED AND CONTROVERSIAL. EDITORIALY, ALMOST ALL DAILY PAPERS HAVE WELCOMED THEM; INCLUDING THE BLACK-RUN DAILY, THE POST. THE PREVAILING VIEW IS THAT THE VERY FACT THAT SUCH A MEETING IS TAKING PLACE IS "HISTORIC," THE FIRST TIME THAT AFRIKANER AND BLACK LEADERS HAVE TALKED ABOUT THE FUTURE. THE POST SAYS IT IS "NOT NAIVE ENOUGH TO SAY THAT SUCH FIRST CONTACT WILL PRODUCE SOMETHING DYNAMIC" BUT FEELS IT IS A MOVE IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. MORE ACTIVIST CONTACTS WITHIN THE BLACK CONSCIOUSNESS MOVEMENT HAVE SHOWN A GREAT DEAL OF SKEPTICISM ABOUT THE MEETING, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE OF THE STRONG INKATHA PRESENCE. EMBOFF HAS HEARD FROM SOME CONTACTS THAT MOTLANA'S CREDIBILITY IS AT STAKE IF HE DOESN'T MAKE A STRONG PUBLIC STATEMENT ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE MEETINGS, PARTICULARLY SINCE THE FIRST PRESS ACCOUNTS INDICATED THAT THE WHITES ARE NOT QUESTIONING THE BASIC TENETS OF SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT.

5. MOTLANA SEEMS WELL AWARE OF THE POSSIBLE DISCREDIT HIS PARTICIPATION COULD CAST ON HIMSELF AND HE TOLD EMBOFFS THAT HE WAS CONSIDERING MAKING A STATEMENT ON HIS OWN AND MIGHT NOT CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03     PRETOR 04943 240905Z

TAKE PART IN ANY OF THE REMAINING MEETINGS. THE REASON HE MIGHT NOT PROCEED, HE SAID, WAS THAT THE AFRIKANER PARTICIPANTS SHOWED NO INDICATION THAT THEY WERE READY TO QUESTION THE EXCLUSION OF THE BLACK FROM PARTICIPATION IN THE BODY POLITIC OF SOUTH AFRICA WITH THE WHITE. MOTLANA SAID HE HAD TOLD THEM FRANKLY THAT WITHOUT ADDRESSING THAT POINT, THE GROUP HAD NOTHING FURTHER TO DISCUSS. MOTLANA SAID THE FIRST SESSION HAD REVOLVED AROUND THE STATUS OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCILS AND WAS LED ON THE BLACK SIDE BY INKATHA LEADER NYEMBEZI. IT WAS HIS OPINION, HE SAID, THAT INKATHA WAS BEING GROOMED BY THE NATIONALISTS TO TAKE A LEADING ROLE IN URBAN COMMUNITY COUNCILS BECAUSE THEY WOULD BE COOPERATIVE WITH THE SAG'S OBJECTIVES. MOTLANA SPOKE VERY DISPARAGINGLY OF INKATHA AND BUTHELEZI.

6. COMMENT: WHILE DRAWING SUSPICION FROM THE BLACK ACTIVIST COMMUNITY AND BEING CONDUCTED WITHOUT A SAG PRESENCE, THE MEETINGS DO MARK SOMETHING OF A WATERSHED IN THAT THEY REFLECT GROWING CONCERN AMONG SOME AFRIKANERS OVER THE UNWILLINGNESS OR INABILITY OF THE GOVERNMENT TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEMS OF URBAN BLACKS AND HOW THEY RELATE TO ANY FINAL PROJECTED SCHEME. THAT VILJOEN AND OTHERS ARE SPEAKING ABOUT "CONFEDERAL SYSTEMS" AND EVEN LEAVING THE FUTURE OPEN BY ASSERTING THEY MAY HAVE TO

CONSIDER "OTHER POLITICAL PATHS," (AS VILTJOEN STATED IN A RECENT INTERVIEW - REF B) SUGGESTS MOVEMENT IN THE ATTITUDES OF AFRIKANER INTELLECTUALS. THIS MOVEMENT, HOWEVER, IS NOT AT PRESENT REFLECTED IN GOVERNMENT THINKING, AND THERE IS SERIOUS QUESTIONING WITHIN THE BLACK COMMUNITY WHETHER THIS DEVELOPMENT IS REALLY SIGNIFICANT. THE MEETING, NEVERTHELESS, IS A POSITIVE INDICATOR IN A SITUATION THAT HAS BEEN MARKED BY ALMOST COMPLETE NON-COMMUNICATION BETWEEN BLACK AND WHITE.  
EDMONDSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, MEETINGS, POLITICAL LEADERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978PRETOR04943  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780347-0140  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** PRETORIA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780828/aaaaawym.tel  
**Line Count:** 124  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 1307a45c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 JOHANNESBURG A-96, 78 PRETORIA A-71  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1633113  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MEETING OF AFRIKANER AND SOWETO LEADERS  
**TAGS:** PINT, SF, WA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/1307a45c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014